

of their showing them to Capt. Chearnley, who had taken some of them to Halifax, and, about the time that gold was discovered at Tangier, some miners, supposing that the leaves indicated gold or some precious metal, prevailed upon the Indians or some of our Lumbermen to take them to the spot, where they dug a few small holes and found nothing. Beaverdam diggings are about four miles from the bushes, and have the nearest known gold. All the green bushes were included in $\frac{1}{2}$ acre of ground. I never heard of their being elsewhere, nor do I believe that they ever have been found elsewhere in Nova Scotia. Two years ago the fire passed over a corner of the green-bush ground, but they were as scarce then as now, why I cannot say unless that the seeds are produced from the flower, and no bushes have been left long enough to blossom. The ground where they grow is sandy soil, covered with scrubby spruce, fir, juniper, white birch, &c. South of where they grow, about 100 yards, is a large bog known as green bush bog. After leaving the bog and passing through the bush, ground going north, you by degrees come into a large hardwood hill. I have taken up much land in that locality for lumbering, and the green bush ground among it. I will get my friend J. H. Balcom, Deputy Surveyor, to draw me a plan of the locality and will take it up to you when I go to town next week, and am ever ready and happy to give you any information in my power.

Yours very truly,
D. W. ARCHIBALD.

WE copy from the *Weekly Monitor*, Bridgetown, Ann., the following seasonable letter, addressed to the Editor by Colonel Starratt, one of the members of the Central Board of Agriculture:—

Dear Sir,—In common with my brother farmers of the Annapolis Valley, with the exception of hauling our firewood and poles required for the coming year, and the care of our stock, we have not much of importance to engage our attention on the farm during the winter months; therefore I thought, perhaps, it would not be out of place to draw the attention of farmers, and others interested, to some topics on agriculture which are of interest to us.

First. The improvement in the different breeds of cattle, and the care and keep of the same. Every person, I think, will admit that the efforts being made by the Board of Agriculture, in the importation and bringing into notice particular breeds of thorough bred animals, are doing much good, and will hereafter be a lasting benefit to the agricultural interests of this Province—hence the advisability of every person so interested giving their

encouragement to an enterprise by which all will be so much benefitted. I may say that mistakes (and consequently disappointment and dissatisfaction) are often made by agricultural societies, in making purchases of a breed of cattle not at all adapted to the locality, or for the use for which they were intended.

If a dairy district, the Ayrshire breed should be selected, for it has been proved by chemical experiments that the milk of a thorough bred Ayrshire Cow will keep sweet twenty-five hours longer than the milk from a cow of any other breed—the cream will be much longer in rising, consequently its greater value in manufacturing into cheese, as the most experienced cheese makers say that the cream once on the surface cannot altogether be worked into curd. A large number of cheese factories are now being established throughout the Province. Annapolis County has its share. We have now to compete with the other Provinces in the Dominion, and also the United States. Competition is therefore keen; and, in view of this, it will become the duty and necessity of the shareholders of factories to not only look to the quantity of milk supplied, but to the quality as well, for unless a good article is made, but small prices will be returned, and a loss will be the result.

In selecting males and females for breeders to improve dairy cows, the farmers should be governed by the excellence of the animal—the one having the most good points should be selected. An animal may possess the slight peculiarities of a breed without any of its excellencies. Pedigrees without excellence are of little value, hence the importance of agricultural societies in making purchases to secure no animal without these two requisites. Then again it is of but little use to expend large sums of money in the purchase of improved breeds of cattle, unless the farmer makes up his mind to have proper stables in which to keep them; then with plenty of good nutritious food, and by a proper method of feeding, the farmer will secure profit in the form of milk from the cow, and growth and beef from the ox.

Second. The subject of manure is one of importance to every farmer. All must admit that manure is the foundation of agricultural prosperity. To the farmer it is his mine of gold—therefore it is of the utmost importance that he accumulates as much of it as he possibly can, and then uses his common sense and practical experience in spreading it under his crops to the best advantage, not only for the profit in his present crop, but to leave the land in good condition for future crops. How often do you hear the remark made by farmers that they would willingly raise roots to

feed their stock in winter, but their limited supply of manure prevented them from doing so, when, in fact, if they possessed the energy without which no farmer can prosper, they would find other sources from which to draw the supply, besides the mere droppings from the cattle during the winter months. How much more could be saved and made by having proper vats to receive the liquid secretions from the cattle. An absorbent in the shape of muck and coarse fodder could be thrown into the vats, which would make manure equal to the droppings from the cattle. Again, how much more could be made by looking strictly after the hog yards, and having them supplied with muck that the hogs could manufacture into first rate manure during the season.

Third. More attention should be paid to the Rotation of Crops, which is also of much importance to the farmer. Every farmer knows that some crops admit of a heavier application of manure than others, and also that plants obtain part of their support from the soil and part from the atmosphere. It follows, that every crop takes out of the soil a certain degree of its fertility, hence the importance of the farmer looking well to his system of Rotation, in order that he may not draw too largely from the soil, as well as seeing that he makes his return in the shape of manure—thereby receiving good returns for his labor. I may mention corn, mangold wurtzel, turnips, &c., as of this class which require to be heavily manured; my experience in the use of Superphosphates in raising roots has given satisfaction; but I am of the opinion that the soil requires barn-yard manure to hold out in the latter part of the season. The superphosphate is a powerful fertilizer and sends the crop along at a rapid rate the first of the season.

Fourth. I ask, what can be done to keep our young men at home on the farm instead of emigrating to the United States, thereby giving their time and labor to a country which cannot possibly benefit us in any way?—We have yet plenty of vacant lands to be brought into cultivation which must be eventually settled, and not till then, will our Cities, Towns and Villages be built up, and give us a market of which we are sadly in want. Then again, a large number of our young men, farmer's sons, leave the farm for the learned professions. As a consequence, those professions are crowded to overflowing and not a little out of repute. This, the evil of which we as farmers complain, has, indirectly at least, destroyed no small amount of the prosperity and promise of our country.

Now, Mr. Editor, as I find my letter is already getting too lengthy for your col-